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THE HUNNICUTTS OF PRINCE GEORGE

BY JAMES BRANCH CABELL

This family has long been confused with the Hunnicutts of Surry County: the error arising naturally enough, from the fact that John¹ Hunnicutt, propositus of the Hunnicutts of Prince George, during the seventeenth century made his home in Surry. Augustine¹ Hunnicutt was living in Surry in 1653 his will, dated 30 May 1682, recorded in Surry 6 March 1682-3, shows that he left issue Augustine,² Robert² and Katherine² (then the widow of Samuel Cornell). Augustine² Hunnicutt (will, dated 10 March 1708-9, recorded 2 May 1710) had only one son, Augustine³ Hunnicutt (will, dated 14 July 1743, recorded 19 October 1743), who left numerous descendants in Surry. Robert² Hunnicutt removed to North Carolina, where he too left descendants, in Johnston and Granville counties.

It is conceivable that Augustine¹ Hunnicutt was brother to John¹ Hunnicutt, the founder of the Prince George family: but Augustine must have been by some twenty years the elder and setting apart one trivial circumstance, nothing has been discovered to show any connection between the two bearers of this rather unusual surname, both of whom settled in Surry at about the same time.

JOHN¹ HUNNICUTT, born circa 1650, died 1699, first figures in the Surry County records in 1668, being then named in the "List of Lawnes Creek Tythables," and assessed for one tithe. John Hunnicutt, "who hath Married Elizabeth Warren, daughter of Mr. Tho: Warren, dec'd," gave a receipt to Mr. Mathias Marriott, for "her p'portion as it was given unto the Co'r't by Mrs Jane Warren," in Surry, 20 March 1670-1, this document being acknowledged at the April Court 1671. She was daughter of Thomas Warren of Smith's Fort, in Surry, (by his second wife, Elizabeth ———, widow of Major Robert Shepherd of Surry): compare note 1.

Surry County records for the next thirty years contain frequent mentions of John¹ Hunnicutt, but none of particular interest. Thus John Hunnicutt appraised the estate of Thomas Warwell 11 May 1675; and was named among the tithables 10 June 1675. John Hunnicutt was reported for not frequenting the church 9 July 1675; and on 26 February 1676-7, was among the forty residents of Surry who, having been con-

cerned in Bacon's Rebellion, addressed a petition to the King, "to through ourselves at his Maj'ties & ye Rt. Hono'ble Sr. Wm. Berkeley's feete for Mercy and Pardon." He is named among the tithables in October 1678, again in 1679, and assessed for one tithable "in precincts of Southwarke" 10 June 1684, &c., &c.

John¹ Hunnicutt died in Surry early in the year 1699.

"An Inventory and appraisem't of the estate of JOHN HUNNICUTT, dec'd, taken the 17th of Aprill 1699:

2 small sowes, 9 piggs, and 3 shoatts, at	250
1 feather bed, 1 old bedstead, 1 feather pillow, 2 blankets	400
1 spitt, a Pcell of old lumber	100
1 small iron pott and hookes, 1 meale barrell, 2 old skilletts, 2 old metal sifters, 2 glass bottles, 1 brasse candlesticke, 1 small earthen dish	100
	850

"Aprill 17th 1699: Wee, the Subscribers, being appointed by ord'r of Court dated 7 day of March 1698-9, and sworne by Mr. John Edwards, have valued the above p'ticulars to the summe of eight hundred & fifty pounds of tob'o.

JOHN CLARKE his X mark
THOMAS HORTON his X mark

*"At a Court held at Southwarke for the County of Surry, 4 July 1699—*This day appeared in Court Elizabeth Hunnicutt, Adm'ix of John Hunnicutt, and made oath that the above-said was a true and perfect Inv'ry of the said dec'd's estate. *Test Fra: Clements, Cl. Cur."*

John¹ Hunnicutt and Elizabeth Warren had issue:

I. JOHN² HUNNICUTT, who patented 350 acres in Isle of Wight County, 24 March 1725-6, on the south side of Nottoway river, and the south side of the Three Creeks, the bounds beginning at the creeks, and bordering the land of John Dortch and Smith's Branch. This land was in the present Southampton County. In Isle of Wight is recorded a deed by John Hunnicutt, dated 17 October 1732, acknowledged in court on the same date, conveying to John Thorpe 200 acres of this tract. There is also a deed by John Hunnicutt, dated 19 October 1732, acknowledged 24 October 1732, conveying the remaining 150 acres to Augustine³ Hunnicutt of Surry,—grandson to the propositus of the Hunnicutts of Surry. This is the sole hint thus far discovered of any connection between the two families, and cannot be taken as very conclusive. John² Hunnicutt appears thereafter to have made his home in Prince George

County. At a court held for Prince George County April, 1740, Holmes Boisseau and his wife Rebecca acknowledged a deed of land to John Hunnicutt: conceivably, however, this was John³ Hunnicutt; John² Hunnicutt seems to have left no issue.

II. ROBERT² HUNNICUTT, of whom hereafter.

III. WILLIAM² HUNNICUTT, whose inventory was recorded in Surry 18 March 1718-9, by Elizabeth Hunnicutt, as administratrix: accounts for the estate were recorded 19 July 1721, by John Upchurch. William² Hunnicutt left no issue.

ROBERT² HUNNICUTT, born circa 1675, living in 1740, removed to Prince George County, presumably about the time of his marriage, at which period or perhaps a little earlier he became a Quaker. It was in or about 1700 that he married Margaret, daughter of Peter Wyke (and Huldah Ladd) of Prince George. Peter Wyke had joined the Quakers, to all appearance not later than 1689, and it is improbable that his daughter married out of that sect: compare Note 2.

There is a land-patent, granted 23 March 1715-6, to Robert Hunnicutt of Prince George County, for 100 acres "on the south side of the main black water Swamp, in the County of Surry, & bounded as followeth:—Beginning at a white oak on the north side of Warwick Swamp; thence north twenty five degrees West one hundred & ten pole, to a red oak, a corner of the said Hunnicutt's old land; thence by his old lines north fifteen degrees East Sixty pole, to a hickory; & north ten degrees East eighty pole, to a lightwood post, over the run of the long meadow branch; then down the run of the said branch, to Warwick Swamp aforesaid; & up the various courses of the run of the said Swamp, to the beginning." This tract was in the extreme north west corner of present Sussex County, so that his "old land" overlapped into Prince George.

Robert² Hunnicutt must have joined the Quakers, as has been said, as early as 1700. He had certainly become a member of this sect by 1718, and was delegate "for the Meeting House near Curles in Henrico" at the Yearly Meeting 6 July 1718. In 1719 the Burleigh Meeting was authorized "near Robert Hunnicutt's," and he was named overseer for Burleigh 6 June 1719. Thereafter the records and registers of the Burleigh and Blackwater Meetings, and the Gravelly Run records, abound in data concerning Robert Hunnicutt, his wife, and their descendants. His wife, Margaret Hunnicutt, first figures therein 5 March 1720-1, and she too was living in 1740.

The following items are from the fragmentary Prince George County records:

Deed, dated 8 August 1721, by Richard Nance, of the parish of Bristol in Prince George County, to Robert Hunnicutt of the parish of Martins Brandon in Prince George County: in consideration of £13, conveying "a certain Tract or parcell of Land, Scituate, Lying and being in the Parrish and County aforesaid, Containing one hundred Acres, and bounded Vizt.: begining at the head line of Benjamin Forster's Tract of Land on Blackwater, and runing from thence down to the branch that divides the said Forster's and John Holloway's Land, and down that branch, to the main Blackwater Swamp; thence up the said Swamp, to the upper end of the said Forster's Islands in the said Swamp; and thence along a line of Markt Trees, to the head Line at the beginning." This deed was acknowledged in open court by Richard Nance and his wife Mary, "At a Court held for the County of Prince George at Merchantshope in Prince George County, on the second Tuesday in August, being the Eighth day of the said Month, Anno Dom: 1721."

Deed, dated 11 December 1721, by Burrell Green and his wife Anne, and Francis Poythress, all of Surry, of the first part, to Robert Hunnicutt of Prince George County, "Shooemaker," of the other part: in consideration of five shillings, conveying "for the Term of one year," "one Tract or parcell of Land, Containing Two hundred Acres, more or less, Scituate, Lying and being in the County of Prince George, on both sides the Easterly Run: the same being part of a Pattent for one thousand Acres of Land granted unto Rebecca Poythress, by an Escheat Pattent, bearing Date the twenty-ninth Day of Aprill, in the year of Our Lord one thousand six hundred Ninety-Two: the moiety, or one halfe, of which Land is in the possession of Littlebury Epes; and three hundred Acres more of the said Land was given to Rebecca Poythress, the daughter of the aforesaid Rebecca the Pattentee: the other Two Hundred Acres, the residue thereof, was given unto the aforesaid Anne: having for the Bounds thereof the side next to the said Rebecca's three hundred acres where they join together, and on the other sides the Courses of the said Pattent and Deed of Sale from Batte to Ardington." This deed was acknowledged at a court "held at Merchantshope the second Tuesday in December, being the twelfth day, Anno Dom: 1721." At this same court was acknowledged another deed, dated 12 December 1721, by the same to the same, conveying the aforesaid tract outright, in consideration of £21 10s. This land was near Jordan's Journey, and had been purchased by Ardington from the Batte family prior to 1682: compare a land patent, dated 20 April 1682, to Henry Batte and James Thweat, for 673 acres, 2 rods, 6 poles, in Charles City County. The above-mentioned patent to Mrs. Rebecca Poythress is likewise preserved at the Virginia Land Office: and recites that the 1,000 acres granted her

"according to ye most ancient & Rightfull bounds thereof," was declared escheat "from Edm'd Ardington, dec'ed," 19 November 1690.

Deed, dated 1 February 1726-7, by Cornelius Cargill of the Parish of Martins Brandon in the County of Prince George, to Robert Hunnicutt of the Parish and County aforesaid: in consideration of £18, conveying "one hundred and Fifty Acres, be the same more or less, together with all Houses, Orchards and Orchards to the said one Hundred and Fifty Acres belonging or in any wise Appertaining, &c." These 250 acres are described as lying "on the South side of the Cattail Swamp, on the North Side of the Blackwater Swamp, and on both sides of the Reedy Branch of the said Cattail Swamp, in the Parish and County aforesaid; and formerly were in the Tenure, Holding and Occupation of one Thomas Anderson, now deceased, and by James Anderson and Charles Anderson, two of the Sons of the said Thomas Anderson, after his Decease, Sold and Conveyed to the said Cornelius Cargill," by a deed dated 10 March 1718-9 conveying forty-five acres, and a deed dated 14 April 1719 conveying 105 acres. This instrument is witnessed by James Gee, James Fletcher and William Hamlin: possession was delivered 1 February 1726-7, and the deed was acknowledged in open court by Cargill, at a court held at Fitzgerralds 14 February 1726-7. The two conveyances by James and Charles Anderson to Cargill, to which reference is made, are still preserved in the Prince George records. This is evidently part of the 400 acres in Charles City County, on the south side of the river, patented 20 September 1683 by Thomas Anderson, "in the p'ish of Westover, on Cattail Main Branch," &c.

Deed, dated 9 May 1727, by Robert Hunnicutt of the County of Prince George, Cordwainer, (that is, a worker in leather), to John Holloway of the same County, Planter: in consideration of £13, conveying 100 acres, of which the bounds are duly recited. This was the land purchased from Richard Nance in 1721. This instrument furthermore recites that these premises were sold by Benjamin Forster to John Leonard, who in turn sold the tract to Richard Nance. This deed is witnessed by Richard Herbert, Edward Holloway and William Holloway: and was acknowledged in open court by Robert Hunnicutt, at a court held at Fitzgerralds 13 June 1727.

"A List of all the Surveys in Prince George County from June 1725 to June 1726," made by Robert Bolling, Surveyor, includes "Feb'y 8th: To a Survey for Robert Hunnicutt, on the Cattail Branch: Including the Survey of 196 Acres purchased of Cornelius Cargill, adjoining his old Land whereon he Lives: 297 Acres."

Among the Surry County records is a deed by Robert Hunnicutt of the Parish of Martins Brandon in the County of Prince George, to Wyke Hunnicutt of Surry: "for and in consideration

of the Natural Love and Affection which I bear unto my son Wyke Hunnicutt of the County of Surry, and for his advancement and preferment in this World, and also for the Consideration of his releasing his Right To me of the Tract of Land I now live on, in ye said County of Prince George," conveying "three hundred and —— acres" in Surry. This deed is in fragmentary condition, but contains decipherable references to "Pattent" and "thousand seven hundred and fifteen," so that the 100 acres of land patented by Robert Hunnicutt in 1715 was evidently a portion of the tract conveyed, with probably 250 acres of the adjoining "old land" referred to in the patent. This deed is dated 21 July 1731, with a note that peaceful possession had been delivered, and was acknowledged in court 21 July 1731. The witnesses were Thomas Addison and Charles Gee.

At a Court held for Prince George County August 1738, Robert Hunnicutt was a witness in a suit brought by William Anderson against John Ellis, and "Affirmed (being a Quaker) &c."

At a Court held for Prince George County April 1740, "Robert Hunnicutt and Margaret his Wife Acknowledged their Deed for Land (Indented & Sealed) and Livery of Seizin thereon, to Peter Peebles, the said Margaret being first privately examined as the Law directs, and found Voluntary. Ordered the said Deed and Livery of Seizin be Recorded." According to the Blackwater and Burleigh registers, Peter Peebles (born 28 September 1714, died 2 April 1794) had in 1737 married Huldah, daughter of William Ladd of Charles City (she being born 13 April 1712, and dying 6 June 1784), who was thus cousin to Margaret Hunnicutt.

No reference to Robert² Hunnicutt has been discovered later than 1740: the Burleigh records indicate that both he and his wife were dead in 1752.

Robert² Hunnicutt and Margaret Wyke had issue:

I. WYKE³ HUNNICUTT, born circa 1701, of whom hereafter.

II. PETER² HUNNICUTT, born 1703, who 7 August 1728 was granted a certificate "for the Meeting at Pequemons in North Carolina," as to his clearness in regard to his proposed marriage with a member of that Meeting. He was a witness, at a court held in Prince George June 1738, in a

suit brought by John Hamlin against Peter Binford, and "Affirmed (being a Quaker) &c." Peter² Hunnicutt had issue:

(1) Robert⁴ Hunnicutt, who in November 1754 married Ann Simmons, who was perhaps a widow. On 12 February 1755 he patented seventy-five acres in Prince George County, on the north side of Blackwater, and adjoining lands owned by his uncle Robert Hunnicutt and the land of John Bonner. "Ann, wife of Robert Hunnicutt, an Elder and Member of Burley Meeting, Departed this life the Eighth Day of the 11th Month 1788." "Robert Hunnicutt, the son of Peter Hunnicutt, an Elder and Member of Burley Meeting, Departed this life 28 April 1795." Robert⁴ Hunnicutt and Ann Simmons had issue: Mary,⁵ born 1755, who in May 1773 married William Ladd (of Charles City County, but then a member of the White Oak Swamp Meeting in Henrico); Martha,⁵ born 24 September 1757, who in July 1775 married Chappel Binford of Prince George; Jane,⁵ born 18 March 1759, died 2 November 1759; Peter⁵ born 11 May 1763, died 18 May 1763; Elizabeth,⁵ born 18 June 1764; Sarah,⁵ born 5 November 1766; and Thomas,⁵ born 22 May 1769, who married Mary — (she dying 1 November 1793, leaving issue James,⁶ born 12 September 1793).

(2) William⁴ Hunnicutt, who married Mary, daughter of James Butler of Dinwiddie, in April 1762, and circa 1774 removed to Dinwiddie. William⁴ Hunnicutt and Mary Butler had issue: Sarah,⁵ born 10 July 1763; Ann,⁵ born 21 May 1765; Mary,⁵ born 16 March 1767; James,⁵ born 30 January 1769, who married Delitha — (and had issue Joshua Bailey,⁶ born 23 January 1793); William,⁵ born 15 November 1770; Peter,⁵ born 13 March 1772, died 2 July 1775; John,⁵ born 9 February 1774, died 3 July 1775; Martha,⁵ born 6 June 1776, died 10 May 1785; Elizabeth,⁵ born 19 March 1778; Tabitha,⁵ born 3 September 1780; and Robert,⁵ born 15 September 1782.

III. HULDAH³ HUNNICUTT, who married Francis Newby of North Carolina, 7 February 1722-3. They had issue: Robert⁴ Newby, born 16 April 1724; Mark⁴ Newby, born 25 March 1726; Margaret⁴ Newby, born 29 May 1728; and Miriam⁴ Newby, born 20 April 1730.

IV. MARY³ HUNNICUTT, who married Jesse Newby, 9 January 1727-8.

V. ROBERT³ HUNNICUTT, who, on 13 July 1733, married Sarah, daughter of William Lead. He married, second, in October 1772, Agnes Chappel, who was probably a widow. "Robert Hunnicutt, Senr, an Elder & Member of Burley Meeting, Departed this life the 13th of the 2nd Month 1782, and was Buried the 15 day of the same in a friends' Burying ground of the abovesaid Meeting House." Division of the estate of Robert Hunnicutt,

deceased, pursuant to a decree in Chancery of May 1787, was recorded in Prince George 2 July 1787, the division being made by Thomas Harris, William Bonner and Joseph Bonner. Robert³ Hunnicutt had issue:

(1) Robert Wyke⁴ Hunnicutt, who in February 1764 married Priscilla Binford, and died in 1768, leaving issue: Samuel,⁵ born 1766, who received his estate from his guardian (?an uncle) James Binford 4 November 1787, by a receipt recorded in Prince George 6 December 1787, and was living in August 1797 (according to a survey made for Benjamin⁴ Hunnicutt) at the juncture of Cattail and Reedy Branch; and Rebecca,⁵ born 1768, who in 1787 married Glaister⁵ Hunnicutt.

(2) William⁴ Hunnicutt, who in June 1768 married Mary Binford (who died 18 June 1775). Deed, dated 8 January 1788, and acknowledged 9 April 1788, by John Daniel and his wife Winny, to William Hunnicutt, all of Prince George: in consideration of £39, conveying a tract of fifty acres on the south side of Blackwater, formerly the plantation of John Daniel, deceased, father to the said John Daniel, and described as bordering the lands of William Hunnicutt, Joseph Brockwell and William Phillips: witnessed by Drury Livesay, Amos Livesay and Jesse Hunnicutt. Deed, dated 11 December 1787, recorded in Prince George 12 February 1788, by William Hunnicutt, emancipating three slaves. In 1797 William Hunnicutt was transferred to the Cedar Creek Meeting in Hanover. William⁴ Hunnicutt and Mary Binford had issue: Jesse,⁵ born 15 July 1769 (who emancipated three slaves in Prince George, 11 January 1791, by a deed recorded 14 June 1791); and Susanna,⁵ born 8 March 1771, died 4 January 1777.

(3) Sarah⁴ Hunnicutt, who in 1787 was the wife of ——— Nixon.

(4) Huldah⁴ Hunnicutt, who in 1787 had married ——— Simmons.

(5) Margret⁴ Hunnicutt, who in March 1767 married Benjamin Crew of Charles City.

(6) Miriam⁴ Hunnicutt, who in March 1768 married Joseph Butler.

(7) Benjamin⁴ Hunnicutt, under age in 1787, probably a son of the second marriage, with Agnes Chappel

(8) John⁴ Hunnicutt, under age in 1787, probably a son of the second marriage.

VI. MARGARET³ HUNNICUTT, who married Thomas Chappel, 5 December 1731.

VII. JOHN³ HUNNICUTT, dead in 1772, who married, first, ———, and married, second in February 1743-4, Elizabeth ——— of Nansemond (who survived him, and in July 1775 married Stephen Butler.) John Hunnicutt had issue:

(1) John⁴ Hunnicutt, son by the first marriage, who in March 1761 married Mary Butler. John Hunnicutt emancipated five slaves by a deed, undated, recorded in Prince George 12 February 1788. John⁴ Hunnicutt and Mary Butler had issue: Elizabeth,⁵ born 8 April 1763; Edward,⁵ born 26 July 1764; Ephraim,⁵ born 31 October 1766; Ruth,⁵ born 13 January 1769; Daniel,⁵ born 17 January 1771; Robert⁵ and Martha,⁵ twins, born 25 December 1779; Mary,⁵ born 10 December 1782; Elizabeth,⁵ born 26 March 1793. Of these children, Edward⁵ and Daniel⁵ were living in Prince George in 1811, according to surveys made in that year.

(2) Elizabeth⁴ Hunnicutt, child of the second marriage, who in November 1762 married James Bates.

(3) James⁴ Hunnicutt, son by the second marriage, who in May 1772 married Rebecca, daughter of Joshua Pretlow of Sussex. James⁴ Hunnicutt removed from Prince George to Goochland, and afterward to Hanover, where he was a member of the Cedar Creek Meeting. James⁴ Hunnicutt and Rebecca Pretlow had issue: John Murdaugh,⁵ born 16 December 1773; Ann,⁵ born 6 September 1775, who in 1790 married John Johnson; Miriam Murdaugh,⁵ born 21 September 1777, who in 1798 married Timothy Terrell; James,⁵ born 12 February 1780; and Thomas Pretlow,⁵ born 5 September 1782.

VIII. WILLIAM³ HUNNICUTT, who was dead in 1769, when his widow, Miriam Hunnicutt, on 26 October 1769, married John Pleasants of Henrico. She and her three unmarried daughters were transferred to the Henrico Meeting 18 November 1769. William³ Hunnicutt had issue:

(1) Jesse⁴ Hunnicutt, living in 1767.

(2) Robert⁴ Hunnicutt, living in 1774.

(3) Thomas⁴ Hunnicutt, who in March 1774 petitioned, through his brother Robert, to remove to Cain Creek in North Carolina, but afterward returned to Prince George. He married Miriam ———, and had issue: Sarah,⁵ born 30 October 1778; Mary,⁵ born 31 January 1780; Debora^{1,5}, born 23 October 1785; and Thomas,⁵ born 11 September 1794.

(4) Miriam⁴ Hunnicutt, unmarried in 1769.

(5) Margaret⁴ Hunnicutt, unmarried in 1769.

(6) Ann⁴ Hunnicutt, unmarried in 1769.

NOTE 1

THOMAS WARREN was son of Sir Edward Warren, Knight, of Poynton, Baron of Stockport, born 1563, died 1607, High Sheriff of Cheshire, knighted in 1599 while serving in the Irish wars, and sixteenth in lineal descent from William de Warren, second Earl of Surrey (who died in 1138.) Thomas Warren was a child of his father's third marriage (with Susan, daughter of Sir William Booth of Dunham-Massey), and was born circa 1610. There is a patent to Thomas Warren, dated 20 November 1635, for 300 acres in the County of Charles City, "bounded South upon Bayliffs, East upon the maine woods, West upon the river, North upon the fower mile creek": 150 acres due in right of his wife Susan Greenleafe, the relict of Robert Greenleafe, 50 for her personal adventure, and 100 for "her former husband, Robert Greenleafe, being an antient planter in the time of Sir Thomas Dale": the remaining 150 acres being due for Warren's personal adventure, and the transportation into Virginia of two persons, John Fonke and Ruth Whitfield. Thomas Warren made his home in James City County on the south side of the river, at Smith's Fort, near the present Scotland, and so became a resident of Surry when that county was formed in 1652. He was burgess for James City County for the session beginning 1 October 1644, and for Surry for the sessions beginning 1 March 1658-9, 10 September 1663, and 23 October 1666. He married, second, in 1654, the widow of Major Robert Shepherd of Surry: the county records show the lengthy and interesting articles of agreement, made 23 September 1654, recorded 8 November 1654, "between Mr. Tho: Warren of Smith's fort in the County of Surry, and Mrs. Elizabeth Shephard, widow, of Lower Chipokes, prior to solemnization of matrimony between themselves." He married, third, Jane —, who survived him. Thomas Warren was dead in 1670, leaving issue: John Warren, living in Surry 1681, of whom no further record has been discovered; Richard Warren, who removed to Maryland; Thomas Warren, who died in Maryland in 1685; and Elizabeth Warren, who married John¹ Hunnicutt. For additional Warren data, compare *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. VI., p. 200.

NOTE 2

PETER WYKE and John Lanier, on 20 November 1683, patented 1,482 acres, 3 rods, 24 poles, in Charles City County, on the south side of the river, in the present Prince George, due for the transportation into Virginia of thirty persons, whose names are recorded. Among these head-rights is "Xpher Branch," who can only have been the eldest son of the Christopher Branch, born about 1627, died 1665, justice for Charles City in 1657 (compare QUARTERLY, XXV., p. 62), and who was not previously known ever to have visited England. This tract "Beginning att a Corner Pine, being a corner that divides Wm Pebbles (?Pebbles) and Thomas

Chappell's," has among its bounds the head of Bedlow's branch, the Otter dams Swamp, Piney slash, the Birchen Swamp, the Reedy branch, and lands belonging to James Jones, John Harris, and Henry Weysh. A comparison of various land-patents shows this land to have been about the head-waters of Bichers creek. Peter Wyke was a Quaker, presumably as early as 1689, to judge from the "Indenture, made the 30th day of 7mo, called Septemb., 1689," between Robert Cate and Peter Wyke, acknowledged and recorded in Henrico 1 October 1689. By this very interesting deed Cate binds himself as prentice to Peter Wyke for four years in the trade of shoemaker, "as well as in all other business of plantation and trade, except it be in the planting & tending tobacco, w'ch ye s'd apprentice is not to do": in return Cate is to receive "apparell, meat, drink, washing, and lodging," and at the expiration of his term "one good suit of Apparell & three barrells Indian Corn." Peter Wyke had certainly become a Quaker by 1703, as records of the Henrico Monthly Meeting show that he witnessed the marriage of Samuel Jordan and Elizabeth Fleming, 10 December 1703. Peter Wyke was dead in 1721. He is known to have married Huldah Ladd of Charles City County, and presumably had other children than the daughter, Margaret, who married Robert² Hunnicutt: but no record of them appears to have been preserved.

(To be continued)